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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/955,879
Applicant(s) : Arora, et al.
Filed : September 19, 2001
Title : Abrasion Resistant, Soft Nonwoven
TC/A.U. : 1771
Examiner : N. Torres Velazquez
Conf. No. : 1449
Docket No. : 8293R
Customer No. : 27752

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.132

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

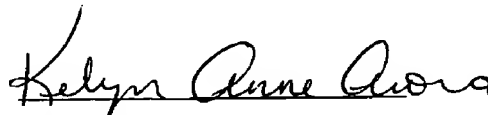
I, KELYN ANNE ARORA, hereby declare the following:

1. THAT, I am an inventor in the above-identified patent application;
2. THAT, I received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Christian Brothers University in 1994; an M.S. in Polymer Science and Engineering in 1996; a Ph.D. in Polymer Science and Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1999.
3. THAT, since 1999, I have been employed by The Procter & Gamble Company in its Research and Development Department, supporting the Corporate New Platform Technologies Division. I am also a named inventor on other nonwoven patent applications, such as US 6,743,506 B2 and US 2004/0161994 A1;
4. THAT, I am familiar with the teachings contained in Meece et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2001/0008675 A1);
5. THAT, I have obtained a sample of the nonwoven web described in Meece et al.;

6. THAT, under my direction or control, experiments were conducted to measure the basis weight and the bending rigidity of the nonwoven web described in Meece;
7. THAT, the nonwoven web described in Meece has an average basis weight of 61.7 ± 0.4 grams per square meter and an average machine direction (MD) bending rigidity of 0.197 ± 0.008 (grams-square centimeter)/centimeter;
8. THAT, the average MD bending rigidity of the nonwoven web of the present invention was measured using the same experimental methods used to measure the nonwoven web described by Meece;
9. THAT, as stated in claim 1 of the present application, the average MD bending rigidity of the nonwoven web of the present invention is less than about 0.018 (grams-square centimeter)/centimeter;
10. THAT, based on the foregoing it is my opinion that the bending rigidity of the nonwoven web described in Meece is over ten times higher than the bending rigidity of the nonwoven web of the present invention.

I, KELYN ANNE ARORA, declare that all statements made herein are true to the best of my knowledge, or if made upon information and belief, are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issued thereon.

Further Declarant sayeth not.



KELYN ANNE ARORA

Date: 9-30-04